

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

To: Q. David Bowers

November 20, 2000

From: Eric P. Newman

In your letter of November 14, 2000 you asked for my suggestions as to your new book on the Gold Rush. I just received your draft of 500 plus pages and will try to make comments on it in short intervals, this being the first. The carefully combed quantity and exciting quality of your prolific writing never ceases to amaze me.

As I did in your 1804 dollar book (you accepted the change) I suggest a title change for this one also.

The new title and subtitle I suggest is:

A CALIFORNIA GOLD RUSH HISTORY

Featuring the Treasure Salvaged from S.S. Central America

Your title is now

The History of the Gold Rush as Illustrated by the Treasures from the S.S. Central America

My reasons for change are as follows:

Many histories of the Gold Rush have been written as you indicate and so I suggest "A" instead of "The" as the first word of the title. It is more modest and more accurate. To use "History" as the second word is not exciting enough and somewhat commonplace. You should get to the point more quickly and use it later in the title. The word California should be added to Gold Rush even though Gold Rush is singular, but it might lead to confusion for some people as to where if omitted. It also adds to interest. The words "illustrated by" are too limiting and narrow as to data presented and the scope of your planned illustrations. You are presenting a much broader view of things than pictures. Some people in the future will not know what *SS Central America* means and should indicate the wreck by the use of the word "salvaged" to spark more interest.

Treasure can be singular or plural as you wish but I like the King Tut approach as singular sounds bigger.

The word featuring is better than including and that is why I recommend it. Now all of this requires that you are permitted to use the title and not step on other people's toes. The decision is yours naturally. A good title gives power to content.

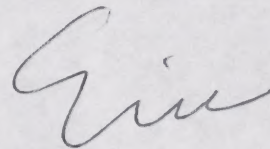


The Doty introduction tells the same story three times of wishing your book had been written earlier. It is cute. Have him eliminate the middle reference to the story and use only the comment at the beginning and the end. Otherwise it is a possible turn off.

I suggest you take out all references to native Americans as "Indians". This is sensitive and may cause a hurricane. See page 18, etc.

Round two will follow shortly unless you say no.

Thrive.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Thrive".



Q David Bomers  
P.O. Box 1224  
Wolfeboro NH 03894-1224

Date

Dear Dave

In your letter of 12/28/01 you indicate your enthusiasm for working on and collecting ~~early~~ New Hampshire paper money and ask if I have any duplicates to sell or trade. I know you realize that ~~selling~~ selling is not a practice I indulge in. It so happens that our foundation in Plymouth, ... it is a collection. It also happens that we have ~~an important and spectacular piece of New Hampshire paper money~~ in duplicate of a very rare, ~~important and spectacular piece of New Hampshire paper money~~ — 7 shillings, December 25, 1734 private partnership issue in lovely condition. I enclose a photocopy.

My idea is that I will try to arrange that you will acquire the collection I am trying to acquire and trade that half to us for the New Hampshire piece. It will be ~~a large price~~ a large price but you will end up with a New Hampshire gem. You won't even see the collection ~~even~~ trying to acquire but the arrangement will satisfy my non-selling scruples.

Fortunately this possible deal should help you if it works out. That is all I can tell you at present.

Happy New Year & Thrive, ~~David Bomers~~